GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2896
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
THEFT AND ROBBERY IN POST OFFICES
Patil Shri Pratik Prakashbapu

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of theft and robberies which took place in Post offices during the year 2005-06;

(b) whether the armed security guards were provided in these Post offices;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the policy regarding provision of armed guards in big Post offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) During the year 2005-06, 398 incidents of theft and robberies in Post offices were reported.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per extant Departmental instructions, the Heads of Postal Circles are delegated powers to make arrangements for deploying armed guards requisitioning from State Government keeping in view the factors such as locality in which the post office is housed, the construction and layout of the building, the kind of safe used in post office, availability of night guard/chowkidar, distance from the nearest police station and general law and order situation in consultation with police authorities.The post offices in

(a) above were small post offices; armed guards are generally provided in big post offices like General Post Offices (GPOs) and Head Post Offices (HPOs).

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.